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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

December 28, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing today to call your attention to a potentially serious threat to our nation's homeland security. In light of the tragic assassination of Benazir Bhutto, I am very concerned about the current state of our nation's immigration policy toward Pakistan. Now more than ever, border security equals national security, and national security equals border security. And so I know that I speak for the people of the Third District of North Carolina when I urge you to conduct an immediate top-level review of our immigration procedures regarding Pakistan.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, in 2006, 17,418 Pakistanis were admitted as legal permanent residents to the United States and 53,458 were admitted as non-immigrants. Additionally, the *Denver Post* reported in March 2006 that as many as 660 Pakistanis were caught entering the United States illegally between 2002 and 2005 – which means many more Pakistani nationals, as well as other nationals, successfully infiltrated our borders and were never apprehended. This is a serious situation, made all the more serious by Pakistan's status as a nuclear power. In addition, Pakistan's close proximity to Iran and Afghanistan is a continuing source of concern, increasing the need for American vigilance.

Also, according to the Department of Commerce, ports in my home state of North Carolina have received many shipments from Pakistan during the first 10 months of 2007 alone. I know that your Administration's Proliferation Security Initiative seeks to thwart the trafficking of deadly nuclear materials, including "loose nukes," but in light of Pakistan's troubled status, I hope you will agree that a searching scrutiny of our port security posture – from Wilmington, North Carolina to Washington State – is much needed.

Mr. President, in view of Pakistan's volatile political climate and its considerable stockpile of nuclear weapons, it is essential for the United States to seriously assess its current policy of immigration and importation from Pakistan. As part of your assessment, I respectfully request a report from you on the number and possible whereabouts of all Pakistanis who are presently residing in the United States on the basis of overstayed visas. I am sure you will agree that vigorous law enforcement is needed here at home, even as we mourn the loss of Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

Cc: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff